

## **MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING**

### **BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL**

**January 27, 2014**

**7:05 p.m.**

Present: Katie Gallagher  
Tony DeMarco  
Ron Van Kirk  
Kathy Pucci  
Mary Albier

Absent: Kevin Tanski

Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by DeMarco to approve the minutes from the meeting of December 23, 2013.  
**VOTE RESULTED:** *Approve:* Yes: Gallagher, DeMarco, Van Kirk, Pucci. Abstain: Albier. No: None.  
**(APPROVED)**

**MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by DeMarco to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 6, 2014.  
**VOTE RESULTED:** *Approve:* Yes: Gallagher, DeMarco, Van Kirk, Pucci, Albier. No: None.  
**(APPROVED)**

**MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by DeMarco to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 13, 2014.  
**VOTE RESULTED:** *Approve:* Yes: Gallagher, DeMarco, Van Kirk, Pucci, Albier. No: None.  
**(APPROVED)**

President Gallagher updated that Council met after the last Council meeting to discuss the Council vacancy, and they were unable to come to a decision, so January 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. there will be a Special Council meeting. Council will adjourn to Executive Session to finalize the decision, and if a decision is reached they will announce the choice tomorrow night; if Council is unable to reach a consensus of the majority, then the decision will be turned over to the Mayor on Thursday in accordance with the City's Charter.

#### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

*None*

#### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS & BOARDS:**

Finance Committee (Councilwoman Pucci): The Comm. met at 6:30 and addressed the following. Ord. 2013-76 and 77 (relating to administrative wages) were recommended Council hold until addressed in budget process; Ord. 2014-4 and 5 (addressing a name change for the Loving Cup Day Care's real estate holding company) and 2014-6 (health insurance coverage costs for Law Dept) were recommended for first reading; Ord. 2014-7 (six month moratorium relating to vehicle title loan businesses) was recommended for emergency passage. Dir. Enovitch advised the administration is well underway with the budget process in preparation for budget meetings. Also, the city is looking into some options relating to salt prices.

Economic Development Comm. (Councilwoman Pucci): The Comm. met Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> and discussed two residential properties the city is interested in purchasing. Discussed the Idlewood property the city is waiting for the deed for. A County representative assessed the property Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, and the structural part is in good shape; the Landbank will contract Dir. Migliorino and figure out contractor estimates on costs. She thinks if it qualifies for the Landbank's veterans program, she'd like to see us to do that (the Landbank renovates the property and then assists a veteran in purchasing it). More information will come after the estimate is prepared. They discussed the two pieces of legislation on the agenda. There was also a work

session to finalize the template for the Job Creation/Retention. She will get together with Dir. Migliorino to revise the template, then present to the Committee for approval. Discussed candidates for the vacant business rep. She said the person does not have to be a resident of the city, but have to represent someone from the business community. They're looking for someone with an area of expertise that could assist the Committee (ex., someone in finance, economic development, commercial realtor, etc.). If someone is interested contact her, the Mayor or Dir. Migliorino; information is on the city's website [www.brooklynohio.gov](http://www.brooklynohio.gov).

Planning Commission (Councilwoman K. Gallagher): The Commission will meet Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the City Hall conference room for: request from Acres Identify LLC for an illuminated wall-mounted sign at 4760 Ridge for identification of Zounds Hearing (Ridge Park); request from TDA Architecture for a 681,171 sq. foot new building construction of the Middle and Elementary Schools at 9200 Biddulph. A notice was sent to all the residents around the school to inform of the meeting. Encouraged residents to attend if interested in seeing the school's plan. Comm. Fitzgerald interjected that due to the meeting subject for the schools, the meeting will be held in the Council Chambers.

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL:**

**Tony DeMarco:** No report.

**Ron Van Kirk:** Thanked the Service, Police and Fire workers, for their hard work during this tough winter. Thanked Dir. Enovitch for the update on the budget meetings, and looks forward to getting into those. Thanked his fellow Councilmembers for the time spent trying to decide who to appoint to this position, and hope tomorrow will have an appointee.

**Kathy Pucci:** Reported that the Marketing/Steering Comm. met last week and they are moving forward soliciting input from different sectors of the community. If you receive a letter from them informing and inviting to a focus group, please consider participating. They are looking for ideas from the residential, business and other sectors of the community. Please consider giving a little time as this project moves forward. Her personal opinion on the proposed legislation for the moratorium on the car title lending – these entities are predators, to the most vulnerable people. As we put restrictions on the payday lenders, by limiting them in Brooklyn, that is her intention with this moratorium. Dir. Claussen will look up getting legislation in place so we don't have to take full advantage of the six months. There are two in the city, and that's too many. Thanked the Safety Forces and Service Dept. employees, they did a terrific job.

**Mary Balbier:** Reminded that Brooklyn Schools will have kindergarten and pre-school registration March 20<sup>th</sup>, 10-12 and 4-6. Packets are at the Bd. of Education or from their website. The Chamber of Commerce will be offering three scholarships, each for \$1,000, the proceeds coming from the Annual Taste of Brooklyn. One scholarship is for a Brooklyn resident senior, attending a recognized college or university in the fall; one is for Rhodes graduating senior, attending a recognized college or university in the fall; and one is for any Brooklyn or Old Brooklyn resident, attending a recognized college or university in the fall. Contact the Chamber for more information. During the holidays went to the AMC theater in Brooklyn, and with the new seats and money put into it, it's a fabulous theater. Highly recommends residents use it. Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Senior Center is Coffee with the Mayor from 9-10 a.m.

**Katie Gallagher:** Added some specifics to the Taste of Brooklyn and All That Jazz. It's Saturday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Ridge Manor Party Center. Tickets are \$20 per person, includes food and entertainment. Tickets from the Chamber or Valerie Thompson at 216-288-5484, or at the High School. She attended the School District meeting last week, and the district plans to reach out to residents for input on issues relating to the new construction for the school. Plans are on the school's website on the About the District tab. They will also have a virtual tour available soon. The School and the city are trying to work together on many things. The new Treasurer Todd Hopkins is in the audience. There are a lot of features with the new construction that we could share services with the city.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Mayor Balbier:** Received a letter from Dominion Gas they will go before the PUCO in February for an increase in the ARM recovery charge (automatic meter reading). Right now it's 37 cents/month, they will ask to increase to 57 cents/month to recover the costs. Believes if you rely on your common sense that's the right answer. He read that the Army Corps of Engineers is going to dredge the Cuyahoga River, and applying to the EPA for a permit to take 180,000 cubic yards of the debris and dump it in Lake Erie. Common sense says that doesn't sound right. They wouldn't let us use that debris to cover our landfill if we asked; so if it's too dirty to put on a landfill why can they dump it in the lake with our drinking water? If interested in sending your opinion, write to the EPA, Attn. Permits Processing Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio. All the union contracts were signed, except the Firefighters, and they wanted to go to arbitration. The arbitrator was here Thursday for an all day meeting, and the results should come in the next two weeks, so all five contracts will be done. When University Hospital took over Parma Hospital they said they would give a \$50,000 wellness grant to each original cities; on Friday they will have a meeting with the cities to set the guidelines on how to apply for it. He will do the State of the City address to the Chamber on Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> at the Westbrook Apts., then on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> to the Democratic Club.

**DIRECTORS' REPORTS:**

Finance Dir. Enovitch: We ended 2013 with General Fund balance of \$8,768,555. Today the city has in the bank \$21,679,498.62. The auditors are here and have started the 2013 audit, and conducting the 2013 GAAP conversion, fixed asset inventory in preparation for the Comprehensive Annual Report. Thanked Councilman Van Kirk for the shout out about the budget process; the 2014 permanent began and will include requests for capital expenditures, and looking at 2015 as well. The meeting the Mayor had with the directors to get the ball started on the budget process was referred to as one as like a revival type of setting, because they focused not just on the numbers, but looked at and addressed what the City of Brooklyn needs in the future. Their mission statement was, To continue to attract businesses and people to come to Brooklyn, with the focus on allocating the resources, services and capital assets the city has, to attract those. It's a long road, with a broad topic, but they're thinking of how to best utilize the resources of the city to get more resources and bring new families and new business residents to Brooklyn. He thanked Council and said he looked forward to their continued support in that process.

Service Dir. Verba: Wanted to explain to residents how things are done with regard to snow removal. In the past, workers were allowed to work in excess of 24 hours straight while operating a vehicle. That wasn't good for the safety of the workers or the residents. In 2012 a policy was set that a worker can only work 12 hours at a time on the weekend, and on weekdays a 16 hour shift. During a storm of the magnitude this past weekend, two 12-hour shifts ran. 17 of the 20 men were in all weekend, 12 on and 12 off. With limited staff they can't get to the sidestreets till all the mains are completed. Several times while on the sidestreets they were called off to go on the mains, which is why those sidestreets didn't get the attention they deserve. Reminded seniors on the snow removal list, the city cannot do the driveways until the mains and the sidestreets are done. The intent of the program is to plow the drive so an emergency vehicle can have access to the drive. Due to the extreme cold on Tuesday, the rubbish collection will be backed up one day for the rest of the week. Wishes his Dad and son, Corey, happy birthdays.

**LEGISLATION:**

**ORDINANCE 2013-76**, Repealing Section 1 of Ord. 2012-6, relating to the compensation for full-time and administrative employees, non-bargaining. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Van Kirk to table. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Table:* Yes: Gallagher, DeMarco, Van Kirk, Pucci. Abstain: Balbier. No: None. **(TABLED)**

**ORDINANCE 2013-77**, Repealing Section 1 of Ord. 2012-22, relating to the compensation for the part-time position for Economic Development Director. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Pucci to table. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Table:* Yes: Gallagher, DeMarco, Van Kirk, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(TABLED)**

**ORDINANCE 2014-2**, Amending Ord. 2004-32, as amended by Ord. 2007-1, 2010-1, 2011-5, 2012-2, and 2013-2 entitled, 'An Ordinance to establish and adopt Rules of Brooklyn City Council.' President Gallagher again went over the changes: The Organizational meeting adds the language 'or as soon as practical

thereafter'; added the School Board liaison; and adding a section for Executive Session, as adopted under the Ohio Budget under Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code. **(SECOND READING)**

**ORDINANCE 2014-4**, Amending Sect. 1 of Ord. 2011-67, adopted 11/28/11 entitled, 'Approving and authorizing the Mayor to executive a Community Reinvestment Area Tax Agreement with ClevelandTech Solutions, LLC at an estimated cost of \$350,000 to reflect a name change and expansion at name change at 4476 Ridge Road. **(FIRST READING)**

**ORDINANCE 2014-5**, Amending Sect. 1 of Ord. 2011-66, adopted 11/28/11 entitled, 'Authorizing the City of Brooklyn to enter into a Job Creation Grant Agreement with ClevelandTech Solutions, LLC on behalf of Loving Cups Kids Academy of Brooklyn for the sole purpose of redeveloping the former Brooklyn Library property into a child care center to reflect a name change. **(FIRST READING)**

**ORDINANCE 2014-6**, Health Insurance coverage for the positions of part-time Law Director, Prosecutor and Magistrate. **(FIRST READING)**

**ORDINANCE 2014-7**, Establishing a Moratorium on the acceptance and processing of applications for permits for businesses engaging in loans on vehicle titles and declaring an emergency. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Van Kirk to suspend the rules. **VOTE RESULTED: Suspend the Rules:** Yes: Gallagher, DeMarco, Van Kirk, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **Adopt:** Yes: Gallagher, DeMarco, Van Kirk, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

Mayor Balbier said Dir. Verba gave a good report on the Service Dept., but he also takes a lot of abuse, with people calling and screaming at him on the phone about their driveway or street being done. These are the same men that have to pick up the garbage, besides working the 12 hour shifts plowing the snow. He stopped on Saturday, and while he was there a call came in with one of the trucks overheating. There are seven salt trucks, and five of them broke down one night. Even though the men are changing every 12 hours, the machines are running 24/7, and the cold weather is taking its toll on the machines. He just wants the people to know they're doing an excellent job with the amount of men they have. So they're not only doing the streets 24/7, they're picking up the rubbish besides. There's not a special group that's assigned to this, they do both jobs all the time, and do a fantastic job. Dir. Verba doesn't deserve all the punishment he takes over the telephone.

Councilwoman Pucci thanked Chief Zemek, they're going to work on a day in the spring or summer to have a CPR session for residents and employees. And also she asked him to look into a new program called Pulse Point, which is an app for a phone, and when an emergency call comes in for someone who needs CPR, a component to the dispatch system that sends something out to whoever has that app and is in the area. It gets the word out to people who are CPR trained that there is someone near where they are that needs assistance. She asked for clarification on the meeting about the \$50,000 wellness grant, if the purpose is to explain the guidelines or for us to seek approval for programs. The Mayor said he understands it's to set up the guidelines; then once we get that done we can apply.

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by DeMarco to adjourn. **VOTE RESULTED: Adjourn:** Yes: Gallagher, DeMarco, VanKirk, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

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Asst. Clerk of Council

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President of Council